Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system~~, which can reproduce~~ for reproducing a plurality of channel signals including at least left and right front channels and a center channel for forward-placed speakers, the sound system comprising:

an attenuating means for attenuating ~~to attenuate~~ either a left channel signal or a right channel signal according to an operation on an operating part; and

a controlling means ~~to control the~~ for controlling an attenuation of ~~the~~ a center channel signal depending on the attenuation of the left channel signal or the right channel signal.

Claim 2 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 1, wherein ~~the attenuation by~~ the controlling means attenuates ~~to control the attenuation of~~ the center channel signal ~~is~~ in the range of 0.3n to 0.8n %, when ~~the attenuation by~~ the attenuating means ~~to attenuate~~ attenuates either ~~of~~ the left channel signal or the ~~and~~ right channel ~~signals~~ signal ~~is conducted~~ in the n % range of ~~the~~ an original signal level.

Claim 3 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system for reproducing~~, which can reproduce~~ a plurality of channel signals including at least left and right front channels and a center channel for forward-placed speakers, the sound system comprising:

an attenuating means for attenuating ~~to attenuate~~ either a left channel signal or a right channel signal according to an operation on an operating part;

a first~~an~~ adding means ~~to add~~ for adding at least a portion of the attenuated left or right channel signal to ~~the~~ a center channel signal; and

a second~~an~~ adding means ~~to add~~ for adding at least a portion of the center channel signal to the right or left channel signal not being attenuated.

Claim 4 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 3, wherein~~comprising~~ when ~~the attenuation by~~ the attenuating means ~~to attenuate~~ attenuates either ~~of~~ the left channel signal or the ~~and~~ right channel signal ~~signals is conducted~~ in the n_1 % range of ~~the~~ an original signal level:

the first adding means adds an ~~to add so that the~~ amount of the attenuated left or right channel signal to ~~be added to~~ the center channel signal ~~is~~ in the range of $0.2n_1$ to $0.8n_1$ %; and

the second adding means adds an amount of ~~to add~~ the center channel signal to the right or left channel signal not being attenuated ~~so that the added amount by the adding means is~~ in the range of $0.1n_1$ to $0.6n_1$ % of ~~the~~ an original signal level of the center channel signal.

Claim 5 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system for reproducing, ~~which can reproduce~~ a plurality of channel signals including at least left and right front channels for forward-placed speakers and left and right rear channels for rear-placed speakers, the sound system comprising:

an attenuating means for attenuating ~~to attenuate~~ either front side channel signals or rear side channel signals according to an operation on an operating part; and

an adding means for adding ~~to add the signals on~~ the attenuated ~~channel~~ side channel signals to the ~~channel~~ side channel signals not being attenuated.

Claim 6 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 5, ~~comprising~~ wherein when ~~the attenuation by~~ the attenuating means ~~to attenuate~~ attenuates either ~~of~~ the front side ~~and~~ channel signals or the rear side channel signals ~~is conducted~~ in the n_2 % range of ~~the~~ an original ~~front side or rear side channel signals~~ signal level:

the adding means adds an amount of ~~to add~~ the attenuated side channel signals ~~on the attenuated channel side~~ to the ~~channel~~ side channel signals not being attenuated ~~so that the added amount by the adding means is~~ in the range of $0.2n_2$ to $0.8n_2$ %.

Claim 7 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system for reproducing, ~~which can reproduce~~ a plurality of channel signals including at least left and right front channels for forward-placed speakers and left and right rear channels for rear-placed speakers, the sound system comprising:

an attenuating means for attenuating ~~to attenuate~~ either left side channel signals or right side channel signals according to an operation on an operating part; and

an adding means ~~to add~~ for adding at least a portion of the ~~signals on the~~ attenuated ~~channel~~ side channel signals to the ~~channel~~ side channel signals not being attenuated.

Claim 8 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 7, wherein~~comprising~~ when ~~the attenuation by~~ the attenuating means ~~to attenuate~~ attenuates either ~~of~~ the left side channel signals or the ~~and~~ right side channel signals ~~is conducted~~ in the n_3 % range of ~~the~~ original signal levels of the left side channel signals or the right side channel signals:

the adding means adds an amount of ~~to add the signals on~~ the attenuated ~~channel~~ side channel signals to the ~~channel~~ side channel signals not being attenuated ~~so that the added amount by the adding means is~~ in the range of $0.2n_3$ to $0.8n_3$ %.

Claim 9 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 3, further comprising ~~wherein a~~ delaying means ~~is~~ intervened before the first and second adding means.

Claim 10 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 3, further comprising an additional attenuating means ~~to reduce the~~ for reducing a level of a highest of the left, center, or right channel signal on which ~~the~~ addition is conducted so that the level of the channel signal after the addition does not change.

Claim 11 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 3, further comprising:

an additional ~~the~~ attenuating means ~~to reduce the~~ for reducing a level of a highest of the left, center, or right channel signal on which ~~the~~ addition is conducted so that the level of the channel signal after the addition does not change; and

a controlling means for controlling ~~to control~~ by again reducing ~~again~~ the attenuated left or right channel signal level depending on ~~the~~ an attenuation factor by which the additional attenuating means conducts attenuation.

Claim 12 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 4, further comprising ~~wherein a~~ delaying means ~~is~~ intervened before the first and second adding means.

Claim 13 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 5, further comprising ~~wherein~~ a delaying means ~~is~~ intervened before the adding means.

Claim 14 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 6, further comprising ~~wherein~~ a delaying means ~~is~~ intervened before the adding means.

Claim 15 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 7, further comprising ~~wherein~~ a delaying means ~~is~~ intervened before the adding means.

Claim 16 **(Currently Amended)** A sound system according to Claim 8, further comprising ~~wherein~~ a delaying means ~~is~~ intervened before the adding means.